

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03
TRSE-00 MC-02 IGA-02 AID-05 OMB-01 EB-08 ACDA-07
SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /077 W
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C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 7485

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, VE
SUBJECT: FY 79 SECURITY ASSISTANCE - VENEZUELA

REF: STATE 171096, CARACAS A-90

1. PER STATE REFTTEL, FOLLOWING ARE MISSION ESTIMATES AND
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMET FUNDING, THE ONLY EXTANT MILITARY
FUNDING PROGRAM APPLICABLE TO VENEZUELA:

A. MINIMUM LEVEL - \$80,000. USG FUNDING THROUGH THE

IMET PROGRAM HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT \$100,000 ANNUALLY. THIS
MISSION IS CONVINCED,, AS NOTED IN PARA II, D, 17 OF CARACAS
A-90, THAT THIS TRAINING PROGRAM REPRESENTS THE MOST IMPORTANT
EFFECTIVE AND APPRECIABLE OF ALL OUR MILITARY RELATIONSHIPS
AND THE VENEZUELAN MILITARY SO CONSIDER IT. HOWEVER, IF WE
REDUCE THE PRESENT LEVEL OF FUNDING BELOW \$80,000 WE BELIEVE
THAT THE VENEZUELAN WOULD TAKE SUCH A DEVELOPMENT AS A
CLEAR SIGN OF LACK OF INTEREST IN CONTINUING THE PROGRAM
AT EVEN A MINIMAL LEVEL OF EFFECTIVENESS AND WOULD MOST
LIKELY DECIDE TO DROP IT ENTIRELY. CONSEQUENTLY, THE STATED
OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM COULD NOT BE MET AT ANY LEVEL
BELOW \$80,000.

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B. INTERMEDIATE LEVEL - GIVEN DISCUSSION IN PRECEEEEDING
PARAGRAPH, OUR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL WOULD BE ANY LEVEL BETWEEN
\$80,000 AND THE PRESENT \$100,000.

C. CURRENT LEVEL - WHILE WE REALIZE THAT GENERAL

SECURITY ASSISTANCE IS A DEECLINING RESOURCE,, WE WOULD
REITEERATE THAT THE LIMITED SUM OF \$100,000 ANNUALLY FOR IIMET
PROBBABLY IS THE MOST COST-EFFECTIVE USE OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE
FUNDS IN VENEZUELA.

2. MISSION RECOMMENDATION - GIVEN LIMITED NATURE OF IIMET
AND PROBABLE VENEZUELAN REACTION TO ANY SUBSTANTIAL CUTNACK,
SHOULD PROGRAM BE REDUCED BELOW \$80,000 LEVEL WE WOULD
PREFER TO CANCEL IT OURSELVES RATHER THAN MAKE WHAT WOULD
AMOUNT TO AN UNACCEPTABLE OFFER TO THE VENEZUELAN MILITARY
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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